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U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/551,373
Reply to OA dated March 17, 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): A separator for use in storage battery comprising a paper sheet formed by wet process and mainly composed of glass fibers in which the fiber distribution is uniform in the longitudinal and the cross directions of the separator, and the fiber orientation is at random in the longitudinal and the cross directions of the separator.

Claim 2 (Original): A separator for use in storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the average value for a difference of a wicking velocity (time required for absorbing up to 5 cm height) between the longitudinal and the cross directions of the separator for use in storage battery is 11% or less.

Claim 3 (Original): A separator for use in storage battery according to claim 2, wherein the average value for a difference of a wicking velocity (time required for absorbing up to 5 cm height) between the longitudinal and the cross directions of the separator for use in storage battery is 7% or less.

Claim 4 (Original): A separator for use in storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the

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fiber distribution is uniform in the direction of the thickness of the separator, and the randomness of the fiber orientation in the longitudinal and the cross directions of the separator is uniform in the direction of the thickness of the separator.

Claim 5 (Original): A separator for use in storage battery according to claim 4, wherein the average value for a difference of a wicking velocity (time required for absorbing up to 5 cm height) between the right-side and the back-side surfaces of the separator for use in storage battery is 17% or less.

Claim 6 (Original): A separator for use in storage battery according to claim 5, wherein the average value for a difference of a wicking velocity (time required for absorbing up to 5 cm height) between the right-side and the back-side surfaces of the separator for use in storage battery is 10% or less.

Claim 7 (Original): A separator for use in storage battery according to claim 1, wherein there is no difference in the surface roughness between the right-side and the back-side surfaces of the separator for use in storage battery and both of them are smooth.

Claim 8 (Cancel)

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Claim 9 (Cancel)

Claim 10 (Original): A separator for use in storage battery according to claim 1, wherein it is used for a valve regulated lead-acid battery.

Claim 11 (Original): A storage battery characterized by using a separator for use in storage battery according to claim 1.

Claim 12 (New): A separator for use in storage battery comprising a paper sheet formed by wet process and mainly composed of glass fibers in which the fiber distribution is uniform in the longitudinal and the cross directions of the separator, ~~[[and]]~~ the fiber orientation is at random in the longitudinal and the cross directions of the separator, and the density of the separator is in a range of about 0.135 to 0.140 g/cm³.